



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DR. R. MAXIMILIEN DEL RIO NAMED NORTHERN VIRGINIA MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE DIRECTOR

Richmond – Dr. R. Maximilien Del Rio has been appointed the new director of Northern Virginia Mental Health Institute (NVMHI) in Falls Church, Virginia. Dr. Del Rio was the acting director since former director Lynn Delacy’s retirement in May 2008.

“Dr. Del Rio brings strong leadership and a wide-range of talents and experiences to this new position – his diverse background will serve the facility and community well,” said James Reinhard, M.D., commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse Services. “Dr. Del Rio will continue the tradition of excellent care and community partnership at NVMHI that has helped lead thousands of Virginians with mental illness to recovery.”

Before becoming director, Dr. Del Rio was the medical director at NVMHI since 2003. He has extensive training as a forensic psychiatrist, focusing on treatment programs such as not guilty by reason of insanity (NGRI) and restoration of competency to stand trial.

Dr. Del Rio is a licensed psychiatrist and attorney. He earned his medical degree from the Eugenio Maria de Hostos University and his Juris Doctor from the Widener University School of Law. He received his undergraduate degree in psychology from the State University of New York at Stony Brook. He also earned a Master of Public Health from the University of South Carolina.

Dr. Del Rio is a member of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, the American College of Legal Medicine, the American College of Forensic Examiners and the Virginia Bar Association. Dr. Del Rio also speaks Spanish and French.

NVMHI first opened its doors to patients on January 15, 1968. The 129-bed facility strives to promote recovery of individuals with serious mental illness through the use of safe, efficient, and effective services. NVMHI is one of seven state mental health facilities operated by DMHMRSAS.

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Available to citizens statewide, Virginia’s public mental health, mental retardation and substance abuse services system is comprised of 40 community services boards (CSBs) and 16 state facilities. DMHMRSAS seeks to promote dignity, choice, recovery, and the highest possible level of participation in work, relationships, and all aspects of community life for these individuals with mental health, mental retardation or substance abuse disorders.

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